



Buena Vista Water Storage District

P.O. Box 756 525 N. Main Street

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Director

John Vidovich – President
Terry Chicca – Vice President
Jeof Wyrick - Secretary
John Cauzza
Larry Ritchie

Staff

Maurice Etchechury - Engineer Manager
Tim Ashlock - Superintendent
Marinelle Duarosan - Controller
Nick Torres - Hydrographer

October 15, 2013

Pamela Creedon
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

RE: Application to Serve as a Third-Party for General Order R5-2013-0120

Dear Ms. Creedon,

The Buena Vista Coalition (BVC) is submitting an Application to serve as a Third-Party to represent growers operating on irrigated lands located within the Buena Vista Coalition boundary, as shown in Attachment A. The BVC will carry out the responsibilities of the third party. These responsibilities are detailed in the Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2013-0120 and associated Monitoring and Reporting Program Order R5-2013-0120. The BVC requests that the Executive Officer approve the BVC by issuing a Notice of Applicability. Upon receipt of a NOA the BVC will inform Members of the Order's requirements by sending a notice of confirmation form which will be completed by each Member.

The BVC has the ability to perform the duties of the third party. Since June of 2013 the BVC has been performing the duties of the third party representing growers within its boundary implementing the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge from Irrigated Lands, Order R5-2006-0053.

The BVC operates as a part of the Buena Vista Water Storage District (BWSD.) The Board of Directors of BWSD is comprised of grower Members who are elected by the growers in the District. Regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings are held where all Members can speak to give voice to their positions. The Coalition is responsible to the Board of Directors and will be present at the regularly scheduled meetings, and will provide written reports at the meeting.

The BWSD Board of Directors has authorized its staff to form the BVC, and to take on the responsibilities of the third party, representing its grower Members. This effort will be led by Tim Ashlock the District Engineer and supervised by Maurice Etchechury the District Engineer-Manager. The District may augment staff's effort with consultants and additional staff, but all control will be maintained by the BVC. The BVC will develop monitoring plans, conduct monitoring, develop water quality management plans, and inform Members of the requirements. The BVC will timely submit plans and reports as required by this Order.

The BVC will prepare annual summaries of all expenditures and fees and revenues used to comply with this Order. These summaries will be provided at normal BWSD meetings and available to all BVC Members.

Since all Members are ultimately responsible for their lands, should the BVC receive a NOV from the Central Valley Water Board the BVC will provide Members in the addressed area with the appropriate information regarding the reasons for the violation. This notice will be given within 30 days of receipt of said NOV. The BVC will provide confirmation to the Central Valley Board of the Member notification. Annually a summary of all NOV's will be provided to members.

The BVC will perform outreach to its members to insure they are educated on the rules and regulations and that they are participating in the program. These events will provide Members information on management practices that will address water quality problems and minimize discharge of wastes. The BVC will monitor participation in these events to insure all Members participate, at least annually in this process. The purpose will be to educate on program requirements, and address any exceedance or degradation issues. The BVC will provide to the Central Valley Water Board an annual summary of the outreach and education, including materials used, Member participation, and management practices suggested. These materials will be available to all Members online.

The BVC will continue to operate the Water Quality Management Plan for the Main Drain, as part of the surface water quality management plan. A groundwater management plan will be developed and implemented also, and will integrate with the existing surface water plan.

The BVC will work with the Central Valley Water Board to ensure all Members are providing required information and taking necessary steps to address exceedances or degradation identified by the BVC or Central Valley Board. As part of its membership submittal to the Central Valley Water Board the BVC will identify the known growers who have: (1) failed to implement improved water quality management practices timely; (2) failed to respond timely to required information requests; (3) failed to participate as requested in BVC studies; (4) failed to provide confirmation of participation in an outreach event; (5) or otherwise not maintained membership in good standing with the BVC.

The BVC will collect fees from Members as required by the State Water Board, and submit them to the State Water Board. The BVC understands that the State Water Board will invoice these fees based on the current Membership rolls, and that the BVC will be responsible for collecting and forwarding these fees.

The BVC will ensure that all actions taken by it, or on behalf of it, comply with the requirements of the Order. The BVC looks forward to working with the Central Valley Board as a Third Party representing its Members. The BVC is confident that it will perform it's duties, help Members perform their obligations, and take actions consistent with its surface water and groundwater management plans. While this Order is new, and so is the Buena Vista Coalition, the Buena Vista Water Storage District is 89 years old, and has many fourth generation farmers working in their fields. These farmers, the BVWSD, and the BVC are committed to maintaining the viability of farming on their lands, and of an abundant, high quality water supply.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Ashlock', written in a cursive style.

Tim Ashlock, PE
Buena Vista Coalition



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Director

John Vidovich - President
Terry Chicca - Vice President
Jeof Wyrick - Secretary
John Cauzza
Larry Ritchie

Staff

Maurice Etchechury - Engineer Manager
Tim Ashlock - Engineer
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December 17, 2013

Pamela Creedon
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

RE: Application to Serve as a Third-Party for General Order R5-2013-0120

Dear Ms. Creedon,

The Buena Vista Coalition (BVC) has previously submitted an application to be a Third Party under the General Order R5-2013-0120. In discussions with staff, there has been an indication that they preferred a boundary extending to the groundwater basin's edge. CVRWQCB staff has drawn a proposed boundary, presenting it to proposed third party Coalitions Friday December 13, 2013 at a meeting at the CVRWQCB office.

The Buena Vista Coalition will accept this proposed boundary, as shown, with the understanding as stated in the meeting:

Third Parties need only send Confirming Letters to their current members, and once these and new applications are processed all duties required under the order pertain to Members, and not landowners in these preliminary boundaries.

The Buena Vista Coalition looks forward to continued good relations with CVRWQCB staff. They have been helpful in guiding the formation of the Buena Vista Coalition under the old Order, and the Buena Vista Coalition knows it will be able to work with staff to accomplish the objectives of the new Order as well. ✓

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Tim Ashlock".

Tim Ashlock, PE
Buena Vista Coalition

EC: Clay Rodgers, David Sholes, Brent Vanderburgh

BUENA VISTA COALITION PRELIMINARY BOUNDARY

RECEIVED

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RWQCB-CYR
FRESNO, CALIF.

